

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 SY-05 USSS-00

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FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2665

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 1585

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, ROCKEFELLER, MRS. NELSON

SUBJ: VISIT OF MRS. ROCKEFELLER TO LENINGRAD

REF: (A) STATE 241891, (B) LENINGRAD 1551, (C) MOSCOW 15288

1. ON SEPTEMBER 28 DIPLOMATIC AGENCY SUGGESTED CONGEN MAKE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MRS. ROCKEFELLER'S FORTHCOMING "PRIVATE" VISIT WITH INTOURIST. ON THE SAME DAY CONGEN OFFICER INITIATED ARRANGEMENTS PER REFS AT CENTRAL INTOURIST OFFICE.

2. CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE SOME VARIATION FROM SCHEDULE SUGGESTED REF A. RATIONALE FOR CHANGES IS INDICATED.

BEGIN SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCT. 8

1130 ARRIVE LENINGRAD. MET BY CONSUL GENERAL
NEUBERT. DEPART FOR ASTORIA HOTEL.

1300 LUNCH AT HOTEL ASTORIA (WE WILL EXPLORE
POSSIBILITY OF LUNCH AT OTHER RESTAURANT

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IN DOWNTOWN AREA BUT WE SUSPECT THAT

ASTORIA MAY WELL BE BEST POSSIBILITY).

1430 TOUR OF CITY WITH SHORT WALK ALONG RIVER
EMBANKMENT AND OTHER STOPS AT POSSIBLE
POINTS OF INTEREST INCLUDING ST. ISAAC'S
CATHEDRAL, PETER AND PAUL FORTRESS,
GOSTINYY DVOR DEPARTMENT STORE IF
DESIRED, ETC. (WE ARE HAVING COLDEST
SEPTEMBER IN MANY YEARS WITH NIGHTTIME
TEMPERATURES IN LOW 20S AND DAY TIME
TEMPERATURES IN HIGH 30S, WHICH SUGGESTS
EXTENDED STROLLS UNLIKELY AND WARM CLOTHING
VERY DESIRABLE.)

EVENING DINNER AT ONE OF LENINGRAD'S LEADING
RESTAURANTS. IS SADKO, ALREADY SUGGESTED,
ACCEPTABLE? (WE HAVE DISCOVERED "CZAR'S
BRIDE" IS OPERA AND NOT BALLET AS WE WERE
EARLIER INFORMED. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND
REVERSING ORDER OF EVENING PROGRAMS FOR
OCT. 8 AND OCT. 9. INTOURIST WILL RECOM-
EXACT TIME FOR DINNER WHEN FINAL
ARRANGEMENTS MADE.)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

0845 BREAKFAST AT HOTEL ASTORIA.

MORNING PRIVATE TOUR OF HERMITAGE INCLUDING VISIT
TO GOLD ROOM (EXACT TIME WILL BE FIXED
SHORTLY; WE ARE TRYING FOR AN EARLY START
TO AVOID CROWDS IN MUSEUM AFTER IT OPENS
TO PUBLIC AT 1100 HOURS.)

1200 PRIVATE LUNCH AT RESTAURANT (AGAIN ASTORIA
MAY TURN OUT TO BE BEST BET BUT WE WILL
EXPLORE OTHER POSSIBILITIES).

AFTERNOON TRIP TO FORMER IMPERIAL PALACES AT PUSHKIN
PAVLOSK. (PAVLOSK HAS BEEN COMPLETELY
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RESTORED AND IN THIS SENSE IS MORE INTERESTING
THAN CATHERINE'S PALACE AT PUSHKIN WHERE
RESTORATION WORK ONLY PARTIALLY COMPLETED.
WE BELIEVE THAT SCHEDULE WILL PERMIT UN-
HURRIED VISITS TO BOTH.)

EVENING BALLET AT KIROV THEATER. (AT PRESENT NEW
BALLET "LEVSHA" IS ON SCHEDULE BUT THEATER

INFORMS US SOME OTHER BALLET MAY BE SHOWN
INSTEAD. WHICH BALLET THIS MIGHT BE IS
NOT YET CLEAR BUT ALL BALLET PRODUCTIONS AT
KIROV ARE WELL WORTH SEEING. "LEVSHA"
IS NEW BALLET BASED ON RUSSIAN FAIRY
TALE AND HAS BOTH CLASSICAL BALLET AND TRADITIONAL
BALLET FOLK DANCING. (DEPENDING UPON TIME OF
RETURN FROM PUSHKIN/PAVLOSK, IT MAY BE
POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE EARLY SUPPER BEFORE
BALLET WHICH BEGINS AT 1930. HOWEVER,
IF THIS SHOULD NOT WORK OUT, WOULD LATE
SUPPER AT HOTEL ASTORIA FOLLOWING BALLET
BE ACCEPTABLE?)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

0900 DEPART FOR AIRPORT.

1000 DEPART LENINGRAD EN ROUTE MOSCOW.

3. INTOURIST WILL PROVIDE CHAIKA FOR MRS. ROCKEFELLER'S PARTY
AND TWO VOLGAS FOR SECRET SERVICE TEAM. SHOULD WE ENGAGE
INTERPRETOR/GUIDE TO ACCOMPANY MRS. ROCKEFELLER'S PARTY AT
ALL TIMES? IN OUR VIEW SHE IS LIKELY TO FIND THIS MOST HELPFUL,
IF NOT ESSENTIAL.

4. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW IF THE AIRCRAFT CREW MEMBERS WISH
A SEPARATE PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES IN LENINGRAD OR IF THEY PREFER
TO MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS WITH INTOURIST ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS
AFTER ARRIVAL. DOES AIRCRAFT CREW ALSO REQUIRE VOLGA FOR ENTIRE
DURATION OF STAY? WITH INTERPRETOR/GUIDE? APPRECIATE ADVICE.

5. WITH REGARD TO PARA 6 REF C, WE ARE EXPLORING WITH INTOURIST
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THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THE PLAN PROPOSED FOR PAYMENT
THROUGH AMERICAN EXPRESS VOUCHERS IS ACCEPTABLE TO INTOURIST IN
LENINGRAD. WE ARE ALSO ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE
COSTS OF VISIT OF ROCKEFELLER PARTY MINUS SECRET SERVICE COMPONENT.

WE WILL INFORM BOTH DEPARTMENT AND MOSCOW IMMEDIATELY RESULTS
OF OUR INQUIRY.
NEUBERT

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